

NEVADA BROADBAND TASK FORCE MEETING

November 29, 2012

9 A.M.

1. Call to order, roll call, and determination of quorum.

Name	Affiliation	Present	Location
Brad Lyon	Moapa Telephone	X	Logandale
Daphne DeLeon	State Library and Archives	X	Reno
Ed Anderson	Nevada System of Higher Education	X	Reno
Elmer Porter	Eureka County School District	X	Eureka
Frank Woodbeck	Commission on Economic Development and DETR	X	Las Vegas
Jeff Fontaine	Nevada Association of Counties	X	Carson
Gerald Ackerman	University of Nevada School of Medicine	X	Elko
Randy Brown	AT&T	X	Reno
Sherry Rupert	Nevada Indian Commission	X	Carson
Terri Weldon	Charter Communications		
Rick Nelson	Nevada Department of Transportation	X	Las Vegas
Jim Garza	Economic Development Authority-White Pine County		

Daphne DeLeon called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. after quorum was established.

2. Introduction of task force members and staff, names, and affiliations

Non-members of the task force in attendance were: Lynn O'Mara (State Information Technology Coordinator), Mike Eifert (Nevada Telephone Association), Quin Rescigno (Rx3 Communications), Lindsey Niedzielski (Connect Nevada), Ariel Martinez (Connect Nevada), Debbie Erdody (Connect

Nevada), Scott Lommori (Lyon County School District), Alan Medeiros (Lyon County School District), Elizabeth Reisser (Connected Nation), Jeff Cocoran (Network Services), Barry Sherwood (Great Basin Internet), John Clayton (e-Care), Maud Naroll (State Budget Office), Chris Magenheimer (North Lake Tahoe Fire District), Jim Endres (MCW), Shane Del Cohen (SHRAB), Jane Miller (Arizona Nevada Tower), George Molnar (State of Nevada).

3. Public Comment

No public comment.

4. Follow up on action items from previous meeting (s).

None.

5. Approval of minutes from previous meeting (s).

Gerald Ackerman moves to approve minutes. Frank Woodbeck seconds. Minutes approved.

6. AT&T Project VIP Initiative – Randy Brown

Mr. Brown reported on a new initiative called project VIP through AT&T. AT&T recently committed 14 billion dollars over a 3 year period to enhance wireless and wire-line connectivity to bring IP broadband to communities. Nevada will be impacted by this initiative. This will mean 900 new wireless connections to AT&T customers. Wireless connectivity will be complete for 2013 and the wire-line connectivity will be complete by 2015.

Mr. Brown stated numbers will be available soon and the 4G LTE build out is a very exciting achievement.

Discussion

Mrs. DeLeon asked if this initiative was guaranteed to impact Nevada. Mr. Brown replied yes, but he was not sure which areas would be considered. Mr. Barry Sherwood asked what kind of connection the broadband would be. Mr. Brown replied these products in not traditional DSL, rather it is focused on UVerse build-out.

7. SONNet Update – Chris Magenheimer

Mr. Chris Magenheimer reported on progress with the SONNet project and a recent meeting of the board. Mrs. DeLeon stated she had reached out to the Governor's office in support of the SONNet project and Connected Nation's involvement.

SONNet Board Meeting

Connected Nation gave a briefing on the work they had done mapping in the state. The board recognizes there is a fairly aggressive schedule for involvement with the FirstNet project and the initial grant phases.

Discussion

Mrs. DeLeon asked what support this project might need ongoing from the Task Force. Mr. Magenheimer stated in order for the project to succeed they would rely heavily on partnerships especially in rural areas and tribal lands. Mrs. Rupert stated she could be a resource in this effort. Mrs. DeLeon stated she would like to encourage the tribes to report on their broadband projects through Mrs. Rupert.

Mr. George Molnar, state-wide interoperability coordinator, stated the success of the project was completely reliant on asset sharing. In some areas connectivity will also need to be improved. Mr. Molnar invited the Task Force to participate in the state-wide planning initiative for interoperability. Mrs. DeLeon stated there is a huge opportunity to collaborate, especially regarding existing assets. She asked Ms. Lynn O'Mara if there are gap areas the Health Information and Technology (HIT) office had identified. In these areas, she suggested leveraging the dollars to maximize coverage.

Mr. Magenheimer stated the SONNet Board has been working to collaborate across state lines as well. The board has built a coalition with other states to share ideas and work collectively to leverage support, especially when considering geographic similarities like large tracks of unserved land and tribal areas.

Mr. Nelson stated he wondered how, logistically speaking, Connected Nation and Connect Nevada would serve their obligations to the Task Force and the SONNet board simultaneously. Mrs. Niedzielski clarified Connect Nevada would serve the obligations to the grant and Connected Nation would satisfy work with the SONNet board. Mrs. DeLeon added the Task Force doesn't specifically need to do anything but she has reached out to the Governor's Office. She also stated the executive order uses the verbiage "other purposes," which

would allow for Connected Nation to serve in other purposes as the designated entity. Mr. Anderson stated he was glad there was a clear distinction as he was worried about scope creep. Mrs. Niedzielski stated she understands Mr. Anderson's concerns and Connect Nevada works very hard to maintain and operate exclusively within the scope of the grant.

Mrs. Maud Naroll stated the grants office would be interested in lending support to this effort.

8. Every Community Online Demonstration – Lindsey Niedzielski

Mrs. Niedzielski demonstrated the Every Community Online product including training, low-cost computers and discounted internet services.

Discussion

Mrs. Niedzielski stated the ECO program is especially relevant with the adoption of a 1 to 1 plan by the Nevada Department of Education. Mrs. DeLeon stated that ECO was a valuable resource to non-profits as they look to cycle out their computers. This will be an ongoing expense and burden for community based organizations, especially those that were or are grant funded. Mrs. Niedzielski stated she was looking to roll out the ECO initiative to organizations like Safe Place and the Children's Cabinet. Mrs. Naroll stated the Department of Administration has a list serve specifically for non-profits and suggested outreach through this email. Mrs. Rupert stated the Indian Education Technology Commission would be interested in an ECO presentation. Mrs. O'Mara stated the Governor's Workforce Investment Groups may also be a valuable platform.

9. Broadband Initiatives in other states – Daphne DeLeon

Tabled until the following meeting.

10. Connect Nevada Update- Lindsey Niedzielski

Summit

The Summit was a great success and encouraged many connections between organizations. Attendees really liked the breakout sessions and the Summit was very well received overall. Respondents thought the Summit was too short and needed more providers in attendance. They also suggested showcasing specific maps regarding build-out.

Discussion

Mrs. DeLeon liked that Summit was a working summit, and she thinks it is very impactful to have the local communities involved and prepared to report local progress. Mr. Brown stated he was disappointed in how many board members were in attendance for the Summit.

Research

Mrs. Elizabeth Reisser reported on the recent eLearning white paper. She noted more are more students are learning online. Connect Nevada found that 44% of people surveyed use the internet for online research or education related activities. The demographics were not unusual and align closely with education levels, for instance most people who are of age to attend higher education, also use online resources. Also, people who are employed are more likely to use e-learning resources. Also, 59% of people surveyed in rural communities use online learning, which is not typical in every state surveyed. Parents reported 2 out of 3 students go online to supplement school work. Older heads of household and higher income households also are more likely to go online for education. Mrs. Reisser suggested looking at the Business Survey in the next cycle of research initiatives.

Discussion

Mrs. Naroll asked if this included distance learning through video conferencing. Mrs. Reisser stated the question was asked in a way that would include video conferencing but may not be explicit. Mrs. Niedzielski added that most video conferencing class also use online discussion board etc. so the person would most like respond affirmatively. Mrs. DeLeon stated income levels were pretty tight and disparities were not as obvious in e-learning. Mrs. DeLeon also stated she was interested in the statistic related to employment and the percentage of people who go online, especially in light of the efforts of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation. Mr. Frank Woodbeck said this was not a surprising gap, based on the basic education level of the unemployed. Mr. Woodbeck stated the work force groups would be an excellent platform for presentation of the business survey results.

Match

Mrs. Niedzielski reminded Task Force members about the importance of match and how to capture match moving forward. She reported we are on target with current match requirements, however if the task force meets fewer times that will impact match.

Certification

The first Certified Connected Community event will take place December 13 at the Fire and Communications center in Douglas County. The community and the Connect Nevada team are very excited to release the county's final plan.

Successes

Connect Nevada recently facilitated the expedition of a Bureau of Land Management permit for Arizona Nevada Tower Corporation, supported Baker, NV as they start a propagation study, identified resources for Genoa, NV, and helped Esmeralda County School District to solve access issues. Connect Nevada also recently presented to the technology commission for the Department of Education regarding initiatives that could potentially support a 1 to1 initiative.

Regional Planning

Mrs. Debbie Erdody stated Churchill County has identified a champion, Elko has completed the access section, Humboldt has reviewed the draft assessment, Lander is moving forward with the assessment, Lyon will have completed assessment by the end of January, Pershing County is currently appointing 5 members to the board, and finally Storey has just completed their assessment.

Mr. Ariel Martinez stated Douglas County is very excited about their certification, Esmeralda has completed the assessment, Eureka is finalizing the assessment in January, Lincoln County is 90% completed, Mineral County is also 90% completed, Nye County is revising some final data, and White Pine is finalizing the assessment today.

Discussion

Mrs. DeLeon asked if the non-certified communities will align with the work that Arizona Nevada Tower's work with proformas. Mrs. Niedzielski agreed that the plans and gaps have aligned thus far and will continue to align as the projects roll out. Mrs. DeLeon asked if Connect Nevada can supply growth maps. Mrs. Niedzielski stated they could support that effort.

11. Nevada HIT Update- Lynn O'Mara

Ms. O'Mara stated how important collaboration with the SONNet board will be moving forward. The core system is being developed and there needs to collaboration at the state level. The HIT is also are starting to look at how we work across states.

Discussion

Mrs. Naroll asked when different systems will be able to talk. Ms. O'Mara replied this would start in the fall. Mrs. DeLeon asked if the goal is to create electronic forms. Ms. O'Mara stated there is a need for standardization. Initially, the goal is to exchange the necessary information across the network. Mrs. DeLeon stated she uses the terms HIT and HIE interchangeably. Ms. O'Mara elaborated, HIT is the overarching term and is really the broad scope technology term regarding and transmission and exchange of EMR through a secure network, HIE is a subset of HIT.

12. Review and Discussion of future task force meeting dates and future agenda items.

No updates.

13. Information Items

Mrs. Jane Miller thanked Connect Nevada for helping facilitate the BLM permitting process for the tower Nye County. She also stated the Arizona Nevada Tower BIP grant had been extended to 2015.

Mr. Lommori reported success in building community partners to continue the sustainability of their program into the future. In the future, the Spanish class has potential to grow and locations in Fernley and Silver Springs are continued to develop community support.

14. Public Comment

Mr. Barry Sherwood stated he would like to be more engaged with the Task Force.

15. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.